

Governor's Water Augmentation Council

Long-term Water Augmentation Committee

June 14, 2017 Meeting Summary

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Arizona Department of Water Resources

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chairwoman Maureen George called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. The following members of the Governor's Water Augmentation Council (GWAC) were present: Wade Noble and Virginia O' Connell.

Update on Demand and Supply Projections

Pam Muse, from the Planning and Data Management Division of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR), presented on the water supply and demand for the 22 Planning Areas of the state projecting out to 2060. By comparing the Water Resources Development Commission (WRDC) projections with the "back of the envelope" projections from the Planning and Data Management Division, 18 Planning Areas are shown to have a decrease in water demand while 4 Planning Areas are predicted to have an increase in water demand. Ms. Muse's slides can be viewed [here](#).

Clarification on "Short-term" and "Long-term" Projects

This item has been delayed until the next meeting.

Messaging for the Final Product

This item has been delayed until the next meeting.

Request for Proposal vs. Request for Qualifications

Marie Horn, the Facilities Manager for ADWR, volunteered her time to distinguish between a Request for Proposal (RFP) and a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). An RFP is a contract with the purpose of hiring an entity capable of creating a product for the lowest cost. An RFQ seeks a consultant or firm that can provide assistance in some manner, and is selected based on expertise. To conduct an RFQ, the Committee would need to select an evaluation committee and develop evaluation criteria for judging applicants to ensure consistency. An RFQ is typically advertised to the public for two weeks rather than a month or more, which is the case with an RFP. The dollar value of the contract may be limited or may require review by state procurement.

An alternative to RFP and RFQ processes would be to make use of a state-approved vendor. Ms. Horn volunteered to investigate what firms are available to determine if any could provide the professional services necessary for the fulfillment of the project. Benefits of this alternative are flexibility (because there is no binding contract) and the fact that there is no cap on the dollar amount for the project.

Review of Request for Proposal, Table and Outline

What demand and supply projections should the Committee support?

Chairwoman Maureen George asked the Committee if they were comfortable adopting the water supply-and-demand information developed by ADWR in order to avoid dedicating unnecessary time and funds to this purpose. Comments made by Committee members included:

- Can we move from a point of “back of the envelope” to a recognized dataset for GWAC purposes? It was recognized that this would include identification of assumptions.
- The WRDC water demand and supply projections could not be used because they are outdated and quite different from current estimates.
- A determination will need to be made regarding whether or not the demand data will be updated if new information is obtained through the Planning Area process.
- There should be a discussion between the Committee chairs about using consistent data within GWAC committees. Based on the needs of the Committees, data projections may entail several snapshots over time to include long-term (2060) as well as short-term (2025) water supply and demand. What should those points be?

Municipal, Industrial Agricultural Sectors?

The committee agreed that all three sectors should be considered in the project.

Additions/Deletions to Table?

Chairwoman Maureen George made the recommendation to add deep aquifer wells to the table as a long-term water augmentation option. This represents water that is available but not currently being utilized due to the cost to obtain it.

Additions/Deletions to RFP Outline?

For the time being, the Committee has focused on a scope or work. A timeline and dollar amount for the project have yet to be determined. The tasks for the contractor and deliverables expected by the committee are listed in the scope of work and can be viewed [here](#).

Since the responsibility for Planning Area outreach will remain with ADWR staff, that component of the project was not included in the scope of work.

Request for Proposal or Request for Qualifications?

This question will be answered at the next committee meeting.

Funding Options

Three funding options have been identified for the committee’s project. Those options are listed in a report on the ADWR website located [here](#).

Determine and Assign Committee Tasks

- **Bruce Hallin** of the Salt River Project was tasked with defining the Committee’s intent between long-term and a short-term water augmentation projects.
- **Sarah Porter** offered to assist in structuring the marketing and publicity regarding a water augmentation strategy. Ms. Porter emphasized the importance of informing the public of the

realistic nature of such a strategy and that augmentation projects would prove feasible in some planning areas, while others may not. The Committee was advised not to frame the Committee's intent in such a manner that would give businesses and the public the exaggerated perception that the state was on a trajectory to lose its water supply. Rather, the intent should convey that the Committee's efforts were to prevent such a scenario from ever becoming a reality.

- **Marie Horn, Gerry Walker, and Chairwoman Maureen George** will be exploring a list of professional service providers that have already been screened by ADWR and will determine their applicability to the project based on their expertise.
- **Gerry Walker** will seek approval from the Director of ADWR for the development and use of a water supply-and-demand data set for the purposes of the GWAC
- **Zack Richards** will draft a grant proposal for the Bureau of Reclamation's Water Management and Conservation Plan, and contact Committee chairs regarding their preference for the years included in the water supply and demand projections.

Public Comments

No public comments were provided.

Items for the Next Agenda

At the next meeting, the committee will review the findings of assigned tasks, and will finalize the scope of work as well as the evaluation table.

Closing Remarks and Next Meeting Date

Chairwoman Maureen George will present the draft of the scope of work, the updated evaluation table, and the sources of funding for the Committee's project to the Governor's Water Augmentation Council at their meeting on August 11th. The date and location for the next Long-Term Augmentation Committee meeting will be determined.